

**Cultural and Historic Affairs Committee
Meeting Minutes
November 13, 2012**

The Bethany Beach Cultural and Historic Affairs Committee held a meeting on Tuesday, November 13, 2012 at 1:00 p.m. in the Town Meeting Room, 214 Garfield Parkway, Bethany Beach, DE 19930.

Members present: Carol Olmstead, who presided; Gloria Farrar; Jan Kinsella; Mary Lou McNerny; Mary Lou Urquhart; Jean Wode; and Margaret Young.

Absent members: Theo Loppatto

Also present: Lindsey Good, Administrative Secretary.

Call to Order

Ms. Olmstead called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

Approval of Minutes from October 09, 2012 Meeting

Ms. Kinsella made a motion to approve the minutes dated October 09, 2012. Ms. Urquhart seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Announcements

- Ms. Young volunteered to be a docent at the Museum on December 7th, 2012 and Ms. McNerny volunteered to be a docent on December 14th. Ms. Olmstead explained that scheduling dates for the Museum to be open can be discussed at a future CHAC meeting.
- Ms. Olmstead reported that Committee members will be appointed/re-appointed at the Town Council meeting, and she asked the Committee members if they would like to be re-appointed onto CHAC for next year. All of the members stated that they would like to serve as members next year, except for Ms. Farrar, who will no longer be employed at the Town of Bethany Beach. It was noted that Claudia Dieste will be appointed as a new member onto CHAC for the upcoming year. Ms. Olmstead acknowledged that if any of the members know of anyone who would be interested in joining, to please let her know.
- Ms. Olmstead took a moment to express her appreciation to Ms. Farrar to all of her hard work during her employment and while serving on CHAC.
- Ms. Farrar stated that Tom Ryan, who will be speaking at the Cultural Event on April 11th, 2013 has requested to give his presentation at 7:00 p.m. instead of 4:00 p.m. Mr. Thomas Summer will be speaking at the Cultural Event on February 28th, 2013 at 4:00 p.m.

Update on Smithsonian Traveling Exhibit

Ms. Olmstead reported the following information regarding the Smithsonian Exhibit:

There have been two (2) meetings that Ms. Olmstead has attended with other surrounding three (3) towns that are participating in the Smithsonian Exhibit. During these meetings, the attendees discussed ideas for the exhibit, which is going to be set up and displayed in the Town of Ocean

View's Town Hall in May. They are applying for a grant from the Delaware Humanities Forum to cover the cost of advertisement materials. In order to apply for the grant, a program must first be created. The maximum amount that can be received for the grant is \$3,000.

The main historical occupations that would be included in the exhibit are farming, the salt industry factories, and the lifeguard stations. The two (2) programs will be held at the South Coastal Library on May 30th and June 13th at 7:00 p.m. The exhibit's grand opening would take place on May 19th but there is not yet a scheduled time. The topic of the first program will be on the early work industry and the second program will be on the building of the Bay Bridge resulting in increasing business of real estate and tourism. The participating towns will be separated into two groups, with one group assigned to the first program and the other group assigned to the second program.

It was noted that the South Coastal Library will be contacted to see if they would like to participate by having a display related to the exhibit and if they can offer any resources. A presentation related to the exhibit can also be shown at local schools.

Ms. Olmstead stated that she will be visiting Bethel when the exhibit is displayed there during December 15th through February 15th, and acknowledged that any members are welcomed to go with her.

Ms. Olmstead emphasized that the Smithsonian's traveling exhibit is to have local areas tell their local stories and to develop public awareness of the history of work in our country.

Ms. Kinsella questioned if the exhibit will eventually be permanently displayed in the Bethany Beach Museum. Ms. Olmstead replied that she doesn't believe that it will be displayed in the Museum because the display would not include information specifically on Bethany Beach.

The Committee discussed ideas on real estate companies that were in business many years ago. Ms. Olmstead advised Ms. Young that her input on this with this part of the project will be helpful when the time comes to work on it, since she resided in the Town during the booming of the real estate business.

Ms. Olmstead will be attending another meeting this upcoming Monday to discuss obtaining the grant for this project. She noted that this item can be discussed at the CHAC meeting in January, and said that members can bring any resources for this project to the next meeting.

Discussion of Projects to be Completed

Committee Member Responsibilities

1.) **Signs for Museum:** Ms. Kinsella reported that she obtained a form from the Delaware Department of Transportation (DeIDOT), and that she completed as much of it as she could, but needs assistance from the members with some questions. She added that the signs are no longer brown, but are now blue. The members reviewed the questions on the form that still needed to be completed. It was discussed what logo should be on the design (the Town logo or to create a Museum logo), the locations of where the sign(s) should be installed: 1. Route 1 just south of the

intersection at Fred Hudson Road, 2. Route 26 east of the Assawoman Canal, 3. Route 1 North of Jefferson Bridge Road, and the size of the lettering and the layout of the design. Ms. Olmstead explained that there should not be too many signs installed, since there is going to be a flag for the Museum displayed in front of the Town Hall. The Committee thanked Ms. Kinsella for all of her work on this project. Ms. Kinsella will submit the application to DelDOT.

2.) Newspaper Articles Album: This project is progressively being worked on towards completion by Ms. Urquhart and Ms. Kinsella. A date for a meeting will be set in January.

3.) Labels for Pictures Hanging in Town Hall: Ms. Olmstead said that Mr. Cliff Graviat, Town Manager, has advised that the pictures be framed, so the Committee discussed their thoughts on whether or not to frame the pictures. Ms. Urquhart stated that she has a good example of her own photo that has a frame on the backside of it, so it is not visible. The Committee agreed that the pictures on the wall would look very nice framed this way, and Ms. Olmstead suggested that all of the pictures be re-done.

4.) Note Cards of Houses to Sell in Museum: Ms. Wode advised that a docent needs to be available to work in the Museum before any items are available for sale. The idea of asking for a volunteer docent to work on week days all year was discussed. The Committee also discussed creating a separate website for the Town Museum, which could be utilized to sell items after these items are developed.

5.) Oral History Project: Ms. Olmstead reported that she spoke with Mr. Ray Disney, and she let him know that the Committee is becoming discouraged since the project's completion deadline keeps changing. She told him that the Committee is willing to provide him a bonus if he completed the project by January 30th. Mr. Disney will be contacting Ms. Olmstead with a realistic date for completion.

Historical Markers

Ms. Farrar presented a house she believes may be historical that was built in 1928, and is located on the corner lot of Oakwood Street and Atlantic Avenue. Ms. Olmstead recommended that this house should be considered for having a historical marker.

Ms. Olmstead asked the Committee members to keep an eye out for other historical houses throughout the Town.

Discussion Regarding Museum Needs

Ms. Young showed the Committee members Louis Drexler's watch displayed in a frame that could be exhibited at the Museum.

Ms. Olmstead explained that the Museum needs to be updated and renewed. She suggested that Committee members can meet one day to update the Museum.

Ms. Olmstead noted that CHAC is going to have its own office in the Town Hall that can be used to store all of its files, and the Town Manager, Cliff Graviat, has offered to purchase a computer for the Committee's needs.

Adjourn

Ms. Wode made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Ms. Young, the motion was unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 3:20 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 8th, 2013.

Respectfully Submitted:

Lindsey Good, Admin. Secretary